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CLAUDIO ESKENAZI

THIS WEEK NO. 22

ANNCR:

"THIS WEEK."

FROM THE VOICE OF AMERICA, THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK GONE BY...A LOOK AT SOME OF THE EVENTS, A CROSS-SECTION OF THE IDEAS, AND THE VOICES OF SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO MADE NEWS DURING THE PAST SEVEN DAYS. YOUR NARRATOR IS---------.

NARR:

LEADERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC ALLIANCE HELD A TWO-DAY SUMMIT MEETING IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK TO DISCUSS A WIDE RANGE OF ISSUES -- INCLUDING EAST-WEST RELATIONS, ARMS CONTROL, SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA AND NATO'S DEFENSE POSTURE. A MAJOR POINT MADE BY PRESIDENT CARTER DURING THE TWO DAYS OF DISCUSSIONS WAS THE NEED TO MAINTAIN NATO'S STRENGTH IN THE FACE OF THE STEADY BUILD-UP OF CONVENTIONAL FORCES BY THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER WARSAW-PACT COUNTRIES.

ANOTHER KEY POINT DEALT WITH U.S. CONCERN OVER SOVIET AND CUBAN INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA, AND THE NATO SUMMIT'S FINAL COMMUNIQUE MADE INDIRECT REFERENCE TO THAT SUBJECT. IT SAID THAT THE ALLIED LEADERS NOTED WITH CONCERN THE REPEATED INSTANCES IN WHICH THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS ALLIES HAVE EXPLOITED SITUATIONS OF INSTABILITY AND REGIONAL CONFLICT IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD.

IN HIS WELCOMING REMARKS, PRESIDENT CARTER CLEARLY EXPRESSED THIS CONCERN:

TAPE: CUT ONE -- CARTER

"IN RECENT YEARS, EXPANDING SOVIET POWER HAS INCREASINGLY PENETRATED BEYOND THE NORTH ATLANTIC AREA. AS I SPEAK TODAY, THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOVIET UNION AND CUBA IN AFRICA ARE PREVENTING INDIVIDUAL NATIONS FROM DETERMINING THEIR FUTURE. AS MEMBERS OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST ALLIANCE, WE CANNOT BE INDIFFERENT TO THESE EVENTS -- BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY MEAN FOR

AFRICA, AND BECAUSE OF THEIR EFFECT ON THE LONG-TERM INTERESTS OF THE ALLIANCE."

NARR:

(OPT) NATO SECRETARY-GENERAL JOSEPH LUNS CALLED THE SOVIET MILITARY BUILDUP GRAVE, AND HE ALSO REFERRED TO AFRICA:

TAPE: CUT TWO -- LUNS

"ALSO, THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND ESPECIALLY IN AFRICA, THERE HAS BEEN A STEADY INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CONFLICTS AND INCIDENTS, WHICH FREQUENTLY ARE AGGRAVATED BY SOVIET INTERVENTION OR THAT OF THEIR SATELLITES." (END OPT)

NARR:

ONE CONCRETE DEVELOPMENT TO EMERGE FROM THE NATO TALKS IN WASHINGTON WAS AN AGREEMENT ON THE PART OF FRANCE, WEST GERMANY, THE UNITED STATES AND SEVERAL OTHER NATO MEMBERS TO ATTEND A MEETING IN PARIS NEXT WEEK TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE ACTION IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET AND CUBAN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA. ACCORDING TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT, THE PARIS MEETING WILL SEEK TO DEVELOP A COMBINED WESTERN APPROACH WITH RESPECT TO ZAIRE. LATER, A SPOKESMAN SAID THE UNITED STATES WANTS AFRICANS TO SOLVE THEIR OWN PROBLEMS EXCEPT -- AS IN THE SHABA INSURRECTION -- WHEN SELF-HELP BECOMES IMPOSSIBLE. AND HE ADDED THAT THE UNITED STATES IS NOT TAKING ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO THE PARIS MEETING.

LATER IN THE WEEK, THE WHITE HOUSE STRESSED THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION STANDS BY ITS CHARGES OF CUBAN RESPONSIBILITY IN THE RECENT INVASION OF ZAIRE. THE WHITE HOUSE RESPONSE WAS PROMPTED BY REMARKS AT THE U.N. DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE BY A CUBAN OFFICIAL WHO SAID THE U.S. CHARGES WERE TOTALLY FALSE, AND CHALLENGED THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION TO PRODUCE EVIDENCE. THE WHITE HOUSE SAID PRESIDENT CARTER STANDS COMPLETELY BEHIND HIS REMARKS THAT CUBA PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN

TRAINING AND EQUIPPING THE KATANGAN REBELS, AND ALSO THAT CUBA KNEW IN ADVANCE OF THE INVASION PLAN AND DID NOTHING TO PREVENT IT.

IN PRAGUE, MEANWHILE, SOVIET PRESIDENT LEONID BREZHNEV DENOUNCED WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS THE BLOODY NATO INTERVENTION IN ZAIRE, AS WE HEAR FROM VOA CORRESPONDENT MARK HOPKINS:

TAPE: CUT THREE -- HOPKINS

"IN THE MOST AUTHORITATIVE KREMLIN REACTION TO HARSH WESTERN CRITICISM OF THE SOVIET UNION ON TWO ISSUES, PRESIDENT BREZHNEV SAID THE FRENCH-BELGIAN-AMERICAN ACTION IN ZAIRE RUNS COUNTER TO DETENTE. AND HE ACCUSED THE NATO SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON OF DISCUSSING LONG-RANGE MILITARY PLANS, WHILE GIVING SPEECHES WITH 'FINE WORDS' -- AS PRESIDENT BREZHNEV PUT IT -- AT THE UNITED NATIONS SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. MISTER BREZHNEV IN EFFECT HURLED BACK AT WESTERN COUNTRIES, SPECIFICALLY THE UNITED STATES, THE SAME ACCUSATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN LEVELLED IN THE LAST FEW DAYS AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION."

NARR:

(OPT) IN HIS PRAGUE SPEECH, MISTER BREZHNEV ALSO PRAISED EARLIER EFFORTS FOR EAST-WEST DETENTE, INCLUDING THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT. BUT HE SAID POLITICAL GROUPS IN EUROPE AND ELSEWHERE ARE TRYING TO RETURN, IF NOT TO A COLD WAR, THEN, -- MISTER BREZHNEV SAID -- TO A "CHILLY" WAR. THE SOVIET LEADER DESCRIBED THE NATO ACTION IN ZAIRE PRECISELY IN THAT VEIN. AND HE SAID A PROPAGANDA CLAMOR OVER ALLEGED SOVIET OR CUBA COMPLICITY IN ZAIRE WAS AN ATTEMPT TO CONCEAL WESTERN INTERVENTION. (END OPT)

DURING THE WASHINGTON NATO CONFERENCE, PRESIDENT CARTER ALSO MET SEPARATELY WITH THE PRIME MINISTERS OF FREECE AND TURKEY TO DISCUSS THE DIFFICULT SITUATION IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND THE CYPRUS DISPUTE. THE WHITE HOUSE SAID THE PRESIDENT'S TALKS WITH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT CENTERED ON REVITALIZING TURKISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS BY REMOVING THE ARMS EMBARGO, AND

EXPRESSED HOPES FOR THE RESUMPTION OF THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS ON CYPRUS.

AFTER MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS, THE WHITE HOUSE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE GREEK AND AMERICAN LEADERS DIFFERED ON CERTAIN POINTS OF THEIR ASSESSMENT, THEY AGREED ON THE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO PROMOTE PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN.

ACCORDING TO THE WHITE HOUSE, MISTER CARTER ASSURED PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT THAT HE WAS DETERMINED TO OBTAIN THE REPEAL OF THE REMAINING ELEMENTS OF THE ARMS EMBARGO, WHICH WAS IMPOSED BY CONGRESS AFTER TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS. AFTERWARDS, PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS:

TAPE: CUT FOUR -- ECEVIT

"I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY OF STRESSING ONCE MORE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO PROMPTLY...THE DAMAGE DONE TO TURKEY'S DEFENSE CAPABILITY...AND TURKEY'S POSSIBILITIES OF CONTRIBUTING TO COLLECTIVE DEFENSE AS WELL AS THE TURKISH ECONOMY OF THE AMERICAN EMBARGO WHICH HAS BEEN IN EFFECT FOR THREE YEARS. AND I WAS ENCOURAGED TO NOTICE THAT THE PRESIDENT SEEMS TO BE DTERMINED TO DO ALL HE CAN FOR THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO."

NARR:

LATER IN THE WEEK, PRESIDENT CARTER MADE A NEW APPEAL FOR THE LIFTING OF THE CONGRESSIONALLY-IMPOSED ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY. THE PRESIDENT TOLD A GROUP OF HOUSE MEMBERS THAT THE REPEAL OF THE EMBARGO IS ONE OF HIS MOST IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES. MISTER CARTER SAID THE EMBARGO HAS FAILED TO PRODUCE THE RESULTS WHICH ITS PROPONENTS HOPED FOR, AND IN FACT HAS STALEMATED PROGRESS TOWARD A SOLUTION ON CYPRUS:

TAPE: CUT FIVE -- CARTER

"I CAN'T GUARANTEE THAT THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO WILL RESOLVE ALL THESE QUESTIONS. BUT I DO KNOW THAT THE PERPETUATION

OF THE EMBARGO WILL CONTINUE THE PRESENT STALEMATE OR LACK OF PROGRESS."

NARR:

(OPT) CONGRESSMAN JOHN ANDERSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE, NOTED STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO. BUT HE SAID U.S. AND NATO SECURITY INTERESTS WERE MORE IMPORTANT:

TAPE: CUT SIX -- ANDERSON

"THERE ISN'T ANY QUESTION BUT THAT THE GREEK LOBBY, AS YOU PUT IT, HAS BEEN VERY MUCH IN FAVOR OF A CONTINUATION OF THE EMBARGO, AS INDEED THE GREEK GOVERNMENT SEEMS TO BE AT THE PRESENT TIME. BUT WE HAVE TO LOOK AT THIS FROM THE STANDPOINT OF THE OVERALL SECURITY INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES. AND I THINK THOSE OF US HERE AT THE MEETING THIS MORNING FEEL THAT FROM THAT STANDPOINT IT CLEARLY IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE UNITED STATES THAT THE EMBARGO BE REPEALED." (END OPT)

NARR:

THIS WEEK SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO HELD SEVERAL HOURS OF INTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK. AND IT WAS EVIDENT THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN MOSCOW AND WASHINGTON ARE NOW UNDER HEAVY STRAINS. MISTER VANCE SAID MOST OF THE CONVERSATION WAS ON A NEW STRATEGIC ARMS ACCORD. BUT MISTER GROMYKO CONFIRMED THAT THE TWO ALSO DISCUSSED THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF IRRITATION IN SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS -- THE SITUATION IN AFRICA. MISTER VANCE SUMMED IT UP THIS WAY:

TAPE: CUT SEVEN -- VANCE

"THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ARE IN A STATE OF TENSION, THERE IS NO QUESTION ABOUT THAT. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HAVE, AS BOTH MISTER GROMYKO AND I HAVE SAID, USEFUL TALKS. I HOPE THAT THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE TWO WILL BE BETTER. I THINK THE FACT THAT WE WERE ABLE TO TALK FRANKLY ABOUT A WHOLE VARIETY OF ISSUES, INCLUDING THE GENERAL STATE OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIPS, IS IMPORTANT AND, INDEED AS MISTER GROMYKO SAID, NECESSARY."

NARR:

ACCORDING TO DATA RELEASED IN WASHINGTON THIS WEEK, INFLATION IN THE UNITED STATES INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL. THE LABOR DEPARTMENT'S CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR THAT MONTH TOOK ITS LARGEST JUMP IN MORE THAN A YEAR -- RISING NINE TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT IN APRIL. EXPRESSED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, THAT WOULD MEAN A U.S. INFLATION RATE OF OVER TEN PERCENT.

ONCE AGAIN RISING FOOD PRICES ACCOUNTED FOR MOST OF THE MONTHLY INCREASE. COSTS FOR FOOD AND BEVERAGES WERE UP NEARLY TWO PERCENT IN APRIL -- WITH PRICES FOR SOME ITEMS, NOTABLY BEEF AND FRESH VEGETABLES, CLIMBING MUCH MORE THAN THAT. THE APRIL FIGURES MEANT A CONTINUATION OF AN INFLATIONARY SPIRAL WHICH BEGAN LATE LAST YEAR. AND THEY PROMPTED THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S CHIEF ANTI-INFLATION SPOKESMAN, ROBERT STRAUSS, TO MAKE A NEW APPEAL FOR SUPPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT'S LARGELY VOLUNTARY INFLATION PROGRAM:

TAPE: CUT EIGHT -- STRAUSS

"THESE INCREASES UNDERSCORE, AND UNDERSCORE VERY SHARPLY I MIGHT ADD, THE NEED FOR ALL AMERICANS, AND PARTICULARLY THOSE OF US IN GOVERNMENT, TO MAKE SOME TOUGH DECISIONS. WITHOUT THE RIGHT DECISIONS ON THE TOUGH ISSUES, WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE CAPABLE OF COMING TO GRIPS WITH OUR INFLATION PROBLEMS."

NARR:

(OPT) MISTER STRAUSS ALSO SAID THERE SHOULD BE SOME MODERATION IN THE INFLATION RATE BY JUNE, AS INCREASED FOR MEAT AND PRODUCE WORK THEIR WAY THROUGH THE PRICE SYSTEM. BUT HE LEFT OPEN THE POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED QUOTAS FOR IMPORTED MEAT AS A WAY TO FURTHER EASE THE SITUATION. (END OPT)

IN THE FAR EAST THIS WEEK, CHINA CONTINUED TO DENOUNCE VIETNAM FOR ALLEGEDLY FORCING CHINESE RESIDENTS IN THAT COUNTRY TO FLEE TO CHINA. CHINESE OFFICIALS SAY THAT A SERIES OF NEWLY

RELEASED DOCUMENTARY FILMS SHOW THE EXODUS OF SOME NINETY THOUSAN CHINESE REFUGEES FROM VIETNAM INTO CHINA AFTER BEING SUBJECTED TO WHAT PEKING CALLED MALTREATMENT AND PERSECUTION AT THE HANDS OF VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS. IN ANNOUNCING THE RELEASE OF THE FILMS, THE NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY MADE NO MENTION OF ANY RESPONSE BY PEKING TO VIETNAM'S CALL EARLIER THIS WEEK FOR HIGH LEVEL TALKS ON THE QUESTION OF CHINESE LIVING IN VIETNAM AND OTHER BILATERAL ISSUES.

(OPT) MEANWHILE, SOME WESTERN OBSERVERS IN HONG KONG ARE TRACING THE BORDER CROSSING TO A SERIES OF STRICT DECREES ISSUED BY VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS SINCE LAST MARCH. THE DECREES WERE AIMED AT ELIMINATING WHAT VIETNAM CALLED CAPITALIST TRADERS -- THOSE MERCHANTS IN VIETNAM WHO COMPETED WITH THE STATE-RUN ECONOMY. THE CRACKDOWN WAS NOT OFFICIALLY AIMED AT ANY PARTICULAR GROUP. BUT IN VIETNAM, ESPECIALLY IN HO CHI MINH CITY, PRIVATE TRADERS ARE MOSTLY CHINESE. (END OPT)

ANNCR:

AND THOSE ARE SOME OF THE STORIES THAT MADE HEADLINES THIS WEEK. YOUR NARRATOR WAS---------. JOIN US AGAIN NEXT------- WHEN THE VOICE OF AMERICA TAKES A LOOK AT THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS OF THE WEEK.

JS/RCS